

## DECLARATION

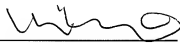
I, Kei KONISHI, a patent attorney admitted in Japan, c/o Miyoshi & Miyoshi of Toranomom Kotohira Tower, 2-8, Toranomom 1-chome, Minato-ku, Tokyo 105-0001, Japan, do hereby solemnly and sincerely declare:

That I am well acquainted with the Japanese language and English language; and

That the attached is a true and faithful translation made by me of the Japanese document, namely "the Notification of Reasons for Refusal" to the best of my knowledge and belief.

I further declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true, and further, that these statements were made with knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the above-captioned application or any patent issuing therefrom.

October 30, 2009



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Kei KONISHI

**Notification of Reasons for Refusal**  
**(English Translation)**

Patent Application No.	2003-048564	
Drafting Date	September 9, 2008	
Patent Office Examiner	YOKOYAMA, Yoshihiro	3565 5I00
Attorney	MIYOSHI, Hidekazu	
Applied Article	Patent Law, Article 36	

<< FINAL REJECTION >>

This patent application shall be rejected for the reasons listed below. The applicant may file any arguments within sixty days from the mailing date of the present notification.

**Reasons for Refusal**

[Reason]

**1. With respect to Claims 16 and 17**

Claims 16 and 17 respectively recite “a hub allocation means for allocating data exchange with the computer to each of these unit devices”.

However, it is indefinite what is pointed to by the term “these”.

Furthermore, claims 16 and 17 also respectively recite “the unit device serves as a unit to which the hub allocator means allocates data exchange with the computer”. However, it is indefinite whether “a unit” gives a definition to “a hub allocation means” or vice versa.

(It should be noted that the applicant shall check the present “title of the invention” and, if necessary, amend the title, because the present title of the invention are likely to be assumed different from claimed subject matter in the present claims.)

**<Allowable Claims>**

Claims 1-15 have, at the present moment, no reasons for refusal,

therefore are allowable. Once new reasons for refusal are found, the applicant shall be notified the new reason(s).

**[Reasons for the Present Rejection made final]**

The present notification of reasons for rejection only notifies the applicant of reasons raised by the amendment to the claims in response to the first notification of reasons of rejection. Therefore, the Examiner made the present rejection final.

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**Record of the Result of Prior Art Search**

Searched Technical Field:   IPC G06F 13/10  
                                  G06F   3/10  
                                  G06F   3/06

**Prior Art References:**

A: JP Patent Application No.2002-253754  
    (JP Laid-open Patent Application No.2004-094514)  
B: JP Laid-open Patent Application No.2000-298529  
C: JP Laid-open Patent Application No.2001-202325  
D: JP Laid-open Patent Application No.2001-222503  
E: JP Patent Application No.2002-252749  
    (JP Laid-open Patent Application No.2003-178017)  
F: JP Patent Application No.2001-346885  
    (JP Laid-open Patent Application No.2003-150285)  
G: JP Laid-open Patent Application No.2000-194645  
H: JP Laid-open Patent Application No.2001-154918

This record is not a component of the reasons for rejection.

If the applicant has any inquiry or wishes to conduct an interview with the Examiner, please contact below.

YOKOYAMA, Yoshihiro  
Fourth Examination Division, Interface, JPO  
Tel: 81-3-3581-1101, Ext. 3563  
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## 拒絶理由通知書

特許出願の番号	特願2003-048564
起案日	平成20年 9月 9日
特許庁審査官	横山 佳弘 3565 5100
特許出願人代理人	三好 秀和 様
適用条文	第36条

&lt;&lt;&lt;&lt; 最 後 &gt;&gt;&gt;&gt;

この出願は、次の理由によって拒絶をすべきものです。これについて意見がありましたら、この通知書の発送の日から60日以内に意見書を提出してください。

## 理 由

この出願は、特許請求の範囲の記載が下記の点で、特許法第36条第6項第2号に規定する要件を満たしていない。

## 記

## [理由について]

## 1. 請求項16、17について

本願の請求項16、17には「コンピュータ側とのデータ授受を、これら各単位デバイスに割り振るハブ手段」という記載がある。

しかし、「これら」という記載がどの記載を指し示しているのが不明瞭である。

また、同請求項には「前記単位デバイスは、前記ハブ手段が前記コンピュータとのデータの授受を割り振る単位であって」という記載もあり、「単位」により「ハブ手段」を定義し、「ハブ手段」により「単位」を定義しているとも読める。

(なお、現在の発明の名称の記載を妨げるものではないが、発明の名称が請求項に係る発明の対象とは異なってきていると思われるので、必要があれば発明の名称も確認されたい。)

